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Birmingham, Alabama

Carey Baptist Association



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MINUTES

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1874.

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MINUTES

OF THE-

Twentieth Annual Session

OF THE-

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Auptist Association,

-HELD WITH THE-

BAPTIST CHURCH OF LINEVILLE.

Clay County, Alabama.

October, 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1874.

JACKSONVILLE REPUBLICAN PRINT

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OFFICERS.

MODERATOR,		-	-	-			FARGASOI	
CLERK, -	-,	-	-	-	G.	В.	JENKINS,	JR.

Committees.

Missions.	Family Religion.	Reading the Bible.
W. T. Davis, W. T. Whatley, W. P. Bell,	J. C. Motley, D. P. Joiner, J. J. Dunn.	J. S. Weaver, W. E. Horn, A. J. Ashcraft.
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State of Religion.	Sabbath Schools.	Temperance				
J. W. Knowles,	W. M. Scarborough,	J. A. J. Nelson,				
J. L. Burnhill,	William Orr,	James Toland,				

Harris Walker.	J. E. Upchurch.	W. D. Haynes.
	an assessment of the same	
Onemina		Executive.

Suci ico.		
M. M. Driver, A. J. Robertson, D. G. Thomas.	•	L. A. Gibson, J. L. Williams, C. A. Allen, J. E. Upchurch, J. F. Ison.

Next meeting to be held with the Liberty Church, four miles west of Ashland, Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1875.

Nominations for Session of 1875.

Elder I. S. Weaver will preach the Introductory Sermon. Elder T. B. Fargason will preach the Missionary Sermon.

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MINUTES.

Lineville, Ala., October 10th, 1874, Saturday, 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Delegates of the Carey Baptist Association assembled with the Crooked Creek Baptist Church, according to pre-

vious appointment.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder S. Henderson, D. D., of the Coosa River Association. Text—Rev. 1st ch. 18th verse. Subject—" Everlating life of Christ." The Association then adjourned for dinner.

1 P. M. After an intermission of one hour, the Delegates were called to order by Elder W. M. Scarborough, Moderator of last annual session, and, after singing and prayer by

Elder C. P. Sisson, proceeded to business.

At the call of the roll of the churches, the letters were presented, read by Elders C. P. Sisson and J. P. Shaffer, and delegates' names enrolled as follows: (Churches joining the body this session are here enrolled for convenience.)

FIRST DISTRICT:

Spring Hill-J. D. Rainwater, W. A. Morgan and M. W. Whatley.

Liberty-J. E. Upchurch, M. E. Russell, J. A. Riddle and D. Castieberry.

Pole Bridge—R. Stringfellow, E. L. Gaither, H. Ingram, F. A. Johnson.

Hatchet Creek-H. Linton, I. Ledbetter, J. Davis and E. Horn.

Union-T. J. Strickland, H. Robinson, D. G. Themas, D. P. Joiner.

Liberty Hill-H. C. Napper, S. H. Woods, C. T. Jones. Friendship-J. D. Neighbors, W. W. Smith, W. E. Horn.

SECOND DISTRICT:

Rocky Creek—J. T. Rotten. W. R. Rotten, J. Tapley. Betheaida—C. S. Luker, J. E. Homes, T. G. Hammons. Pleasant Hill—E. R. Wood, A. R. Whitehead, T. Leathers.

New Hope-L. W. Strong, W. H. Baker, W. H. Hum-

New Salem-J. C. Meadows, W. W. Johnson, D. Camp-

Mount Ararat-L. A. Gibson, A. J. Ashcraft, Jas. Toland.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Spring Hill-J. J. Dunn, J. C. Motley, J. F. Ison, A. J. Robinson.

Antioch-Not represented.

Mt. Olive-Not represented.

Mt. Calvary-W. G. McMullen, C. A. Atlen, R. M. Allen. County Line-L. G. Deen, T. Ogletree, W. Miller, J. Miller, C. Wright, W. Scott.

Bethel-Jas. Trussell, Silas Bennet, Newton Saxon.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Alder Springs- W. P. Bell, J. M. Stephen, J. F. Luker, Jesse Garrett.

Crooked Creek-J. L. Barnhill, W. P. Arnett, J. L. Williams, G. B. Jenkins, Sr., J. W. Moon, W. D. Haynes, G. B. Jenkins, Jr.

Mount Prospect-D. M. Been, T. M. Hayes, J. E. Been,

Y. J. A. Bartlet, P. T. Yates. Shiloh W. W. Powell, J. J. Mir ter, S. S. Guither.

Concord-E. Freeman, L. Whatley, G. B. Shadlix, John

Hix. Salem J. N. Moore, L. W. Walker, Miles Miliford, William Orr. Joseph Orr.

The next business was to elect officers of the Association for the ensuing year; which being attended to. Brethren Renfree and Sisson, as tellers, reported that Brother T. B. Fargason was elected Moderator, and G. B. Jenkins, Jr., Clerk. The Moderator announced the following committees:

Preaching-C. A. Allen, L. G. Deen, J. L. Barnhill, W. P. Arnett, J. L. Williams, G. B. Jenkins. Sr., J. W. Moon, W. D. Haynes.

Finance-J. F. Ison, T. J. Strickland. J. C. Meadows, L. A. Gibson.

Called for churches desiring to unite with this Association, when the following churches responded: Liberty Hill and Friendship, newly constituted churches; and were received. Moderator extended hand of Fellowship to their delegates.

Correspondents.

Received correspondents from Associations, as follows: Boiling Spring-John Garrett, W. O. Jenkins, J. D. Jordan, H. C. Knight, J. M. Barrett, James Shaddix and A. Loverett,

Liberty.—C. P. Sisson, D. S. Moon, D. L. Duffie and S. Fawcett.

Coosa River-S. G. Jenkins, J. J. D. Renfroe and S. Henderson.

Tallapoosa River-ii. M. Horseley, T. S. Christian and A. Rawse.

On motion, Elder J. J. D. Renfroe was received in his respective official capacities as President of the S. S. S. Board and as Associate Editor of "The Alabama Baptist."

On motion, adjourned to 8 o'clock, A. M., Monday.

Preaching

Preaching was as follows:

Saturday-7, P. M., Elder M. M. Driver.

Sunday-9, A. M., S. S. lectures by H. W. Waters and S. He derson: 11, A. M. Elder J. J. D. Renfroe; 2, P. M., Elder J. P. Shaffer, (the Missionary Sermon); 7, P. M. Elder D. S. Moon.

Monday--11. A. M., Elder S. G. Jenkins.

Monday, 8 o'clock. A. M.
The Association was called to order at the appointed hour.

Prayer by Elder J. J. D. Renfroe.

Appointed correspondents as follows:

To the Liberty Association, W. M. Scarborough, W. T. Davis, T. B. Farguson, W. R. Scott, W. P. Arnett, G. B. Jenkins and Garrett Wilder; Boiling Springs, S. T. Collier, J. A. Shaddix, J. W. Knowlee, M. M. Driver and R. Stringfellow; Central, J. A. J. Nelson and James Toland; Arbacoochee, M. M. Scarborough and J. W. Knowlee; Coosa River, W. T. Davis, T. B. Fargason, W. M. Scarborough, S. T. Collier, M. M. Driver, E. R. Wood, J. L. Williams R. Stringfellow, E. L. Gaither, W. P. Bell and G. B. Jenkins,

Jr.; Tallapoosa River, James Toland and L. A. Gibson; Alabama Baptist State Convencion, W. M. Scarborough, T. B. Fargason, J. A. J. Nelson, W. T. Davis, G. B. Jenkins, Jr., W. P. Bell, L. A. Gibson and G. B. Jenkins.

Standing Resolution.

Resolved, That an member of this Association, in good standing, being prese't at an Association with which we correspond is authorized to represent us as a correspondent in said Association.

Committee on Missions reported; and after discussion by Dr. Henderson, W. T. Davis and J. P. Shaffer, report was

adopted, as follows:

Missions.

The subject of Missions is one of special importance.

And as we are wont to apply it to the spreading and infusing of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we should, of course, jive it the most intense and prayerful consideration.

For us merely to read and adopt reports on missions, without entering into the spirit of the subject, and thereby evolve such ideas as would make us more fully determined to advance

the cause of Christ, we think would be useless labor.

In order that a Classian may enter into the spirit of missions, in the sense to sions, in the sense to the charges which Christ delivered to the Church of all ges, "Go. ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and he that believeth and is baptised shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned;" for her sin is contained the spirit of this wonderful work, as is found nowhere else.

This is the broadest and most spiritual statement of our

duty as Christ's Church anywhere to be found.

My Christian brother, let me ask you, therefore, to lift your eyes upon the whole earth, and behold it as the field that God, by his Son, has charged you to cultivate.

You cannot avoid it! God has charged you by his everlasting gospel to go to every part of it, while the world stands, and that for the purpose of declaring the gospel to all people. You may not do it; you may refuse. Perhaps He will suffer you and allow it. But still the command is upon you. You may write and adopt reports, and yet do nothing. God may allow this. He has allowed it! But

yet the mighty command hange over you.

Will you dare disobey what God commands? Some have; some do. How is it with you? We asked you to lift your eyes upon the broad earth, to see it as the territory upon which the command bears. Will you now behold God's ministers-the men whom he has called to go into all lands to preach His gosrel-and behold them to learn that they are His Missionaries by whom he would have the gospel preached to all people; and hear God virtually say, day by day, and year by year, and age after age, "Separate these men unto the work whereunto I have called them?" Will you do this? If you will you are an obedient and faithful church. You might then claim to be Missionary churches; but if you will not, we think you are neglectful and disobedient servants. You may fail to send these servants of God to the field of labor to which He tells you; you may leave them entangled with the plow, the store room, the school room, the law, or with debt which they have been forced to make by speculators and extortioners, who were members of your own churches perhaps.

God may allow it. He has allowed it. But still the command, "Separate unto me Paul and Barnabas" will hang over you? What have you done, my brother? What have you done, dear Churches of Christ? What have you done, Carey Association? O namesake of the immortal Carey, we ask again, what have you done? Let us ask further, and to conclude, what will you do? Not what will you write, but

J. P. SHAFER, G. B. JENKINS, Jr., AARON PARKER.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported; and after discussion by H. W. Watson, J. P. Shaffer, J. J. D. Renfroe, S. Henderson and others, and amendment, the report was adopted, as follows:

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Sabbath Schools.

Churches in our Association, generally, do not favor Sabbath Schools. Theory will not do without practice. Oh, the lethargy in this our course in this good work signalizes us as its opponents.

Nevertheless, dear brethren, shall we not give the question such consideration as shall make it a success in our bounds? Shall we not think and be determined to act, rather than write and de nothing? If not, let us ignore the good work, and show where we stand in the premises. We recommend a prayerful and patient consideration of this important work.

May we revive Bible Schools in our midst.

Let us take our children to the sanctuary, and when we

are gone they will call us blessed.

With pleasure we recognize the existence of the Alabama Baptist S. S. Board, located at Talladega, and call the attention of the churches to the object of its work—which is to especially cultivate the Sabbath-school field of Alabama.

L. A. GIBSON,
G. W. BARTLET,
WILLIAM ORR,

The Committee on Reading the Bible offered their report, and it was adopted, as follows:

Reading the Bible.

It is imperatively the duty of all to read the Bible; for it is the inestimable gift of God to man, to direct him from earth to Heaven.

1st. We should read the Bible, because Christ said— "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal

life; and they are they that testify of me."

2d. We should read in order that we may know what is required of us; for God will not excuse us for willful igno-

rance-neither for mere neglect.

3d. Ministers of the gospel should read and study the Bible attentively, patiently and prayerfully, before they attempt to teach it to the church or the world; for it is through their erroneous teachings and practice, largely, that so much division and strife prevails among our churches and the religious world at large. For if the blind lead the blind, they all fall into the ditch together.

J. W. KNOWLES,

W. W. POWELL, Com. THOS. HAMBLIN,

The Committee on Letters and Documents reported; and after discussion, participated in by C. P. Sisson and J. J. D. Renfroe, and time allowed for subscription and collection for "The Alabama Baptist," the report was adopted, as follows:

Letters and Documents.

We regret that the churches adhere so closely to a stereotyped plan or formula of writing their letters. Hope they will communicate more freely in the future, as we meet for the interchange of affection, for the enjoyment of Christian communion, and for the promotion of practical piety and Christian graces.

The letters might give information on many points that have not been alluded to in past letters.

Are Sunday Schools kept up? Is family prayer maintained? Have comfortable church edifices been creeted? Are ministers growing in qualification for their work? Is proper ministerial support provided? How many ministers licensed or ordained during past year? Such questions will give more life to your letters, if properly considered,

Some of our churches have been greatly revived in spirit, for which God is to be praised while others complain of coldness and barrenness, and beseech the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In humility we lament their condition, and hope they will soon return to God, that they may receive such temporal and spiritual blessings as He has in store for the obedient and faithful. In conclusion, we recommend that every member of this body take and read "The Alabama Baptist," as we think this would tend to unify us. — W. T. DAVIS.

The Committee on Queries reported; and report, after amendment by striking out, was adopted, as follows:

Queries.

Two Queries have been submitted—to us—one from Pole Bridge Church, in these words: "Can a Baptist Church tolerate drunkenness, adultery, or any other public sin, having positive evidence of guilt, and exclude another of its members, because he could not fellowship said offender in the church, and said church be sustained and held in fellowship as a Gospel church in Gospel order with your body, in its associated capacity, notwithstanding that church, in her action, should be endorsed by three other churches?" We have also another Query from Hatchet Creek Church, in almost the same words.

There seems to be an indictment against some person or church, and your committee have not the time at this late

hour to investigate to see what foundation there is for the impled charges, and shall have to content ourselves with answer ng both Queries with one word—No. And in making this answer we desire it expressly understood that we make no raigr ment—do not charge that such offense has been committed. Every Bible-reader will readily give the same answer we have. The Scripture abounds with proof texts to sustain our answer, so patent that we deem it unnecessary to give quotations.

J. L. WILLIAMS,

J. W. KNOWLES, Com. J. C. MOTLEY,

Finance Committee's Report.

Received from the Churches for Minutes and Association purposes,	0- \$48	75
Sa. m Church, Home and Foreign Missions, (\$2.15		
(5 cts.).	2	90
Meant Ararat Church, Home Missions,	3	00
County Line Church, Home Missigns,	3	30
Col ected on Sabbath for Missions,	10	25
Total.	\$68	20

T. J. STRICKLAND, Chairman.

Treasurer's Report,

T. B. FARGASON in ac	count	with	The Carey	Baptist	Ass. Dr 187	
Mi aute Fund,	_				\$53	
M sion Fund,	_				12	20
Ministerial Education		•		-	1	50
Total, -				-	\$ 66	80
	C	ONTRA	١.			
For Minutes. amount	paid,	-		es.	\$20	00
Clerk's Fee, amount p	aid,		le se	-	15	00
Missions, M. T. Sumn	er, an	nount	paid,	r.,	12	20
Balance on hand,	-	-		•	19	60
Total, -		_			\$66	80

Resolutions

Resolved, 1st. That the Clerk have fifteen dollars for his services.

2d. That the usual thanks of this body be tendered to the Lineville community for their hospitality during our stay among them.

3d. That the Clerk have the Articles of Faith and Rules

of Decorum printed in the Minutes.

4th. That the next session of this body be held with Liberty Church at our next regular anniversary time of meeting.
5th. That we grant Providence Church a letter of dismis-

Instructed the Treasurer to pay over all funds designated for the Home and Foreign Mission to the respective agents of those Boards.

On motion, adjourned. After singing and taking the parting hand, were led in prayer by Elder D. S. Moon. Thus ended one of the most pleasant and profitable Associational meetings we have ever held.

THOS. B. FARGASON, Moderator.

G. B. JENKINS, JR., Clerk.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES

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CONSTITUTION.

Adopted by the Carey Baptist Association, at Organization, October 25th, 1855.

We, the Churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith, age convinced, from a series of experience, of the necessity of a combination of churches, and of maintaining a correspondence for the preservation of a federal union amongst all the churches of the same ratificand order. And, as we are convinced that there are a number of Baptist Churches who differ from us in faith and practice, and that it is impossible to have communion where there is no union, we think it our duty to set forth a concise declaration of the faith and order apon which we intend to associate which is as follows:

lst. We believe in one only true and living God; and that there are three persons in the Godhead the Father, the Son, and the Boly Spirit—and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

2d. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments

are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3d. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4th. We believe the doctrine of original sin. and the importancy of mar. to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by his own free will and ability.

5th. We believe that sinuers are justified in the sight of God only by

the imputed righteonsness of Jesus Christ

6th. We believe that a cleet shall be called, regenenerated, and sanotified by the Holy Chost, and that the saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally full away.

7th. We believe that saptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ; and that true believers are the only proper subjects of

the ordinances; and that immersion only is baptism.

8th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and

the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

9th. We believe no Minister has a right to administer the ordinances, only such as are called of God, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery, and are in fellowship in the chur hot which they are members.

Rules of Decorum.

The Association shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
 Call for letters from the churches, and enroll the names of delegates.

3. Proceed to the election of Moderator and Clerk.

4. Call for petitionary letters from churches desiring admission into this body.

5. Appoint Committees on Preaching, Business and Finance.

6. Receive Correspondence.

Duty of Moderator

7. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to call members to order at the proper time; to announce the business in its order before the Association; to receive and submit all motions presented by the members; put to vote all questions regularly moved, and announce the result; to enforce the observance of order in debate, and decorum among the members, and, in general, to perform all the duties incumbent on a presiding officer.

Duty of the Clerk

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a fair record of its proceedings, to notify committees of their appointment, and to preserve the papers belonging to the Association, and to attend to the principal and distribution of the Minutes; for which he shall receive a reasonable compensation.

Duty of Members.

- 9. Any member rising to speak shall address the Moderator.
- 10. Members shall confine themselves in speaking to the subject under discussion.
- 11. No member shall speak more than thrice upon the same subject,
- without permission from the Association.

 12. No member will be permitted to include in talking or whispering, or any indecorous conduct to the annoyance of the body in time of public debate.

 13. No member shall absent himself from the body without permission from the Moderator.
- 14. These Rules may be altered or amended by a majority of the members of this body at a regular season.